

THE GENESIS OF MACAULAY'S HISTORY
15

not had a destroying revolution in the nineteenth.
For the authority of the law, for the security of property,
the peace of our streets, for the happiness of our homes,
our gratitude is due, under Him who raises up and pulls
down nations at His pleasure, to the Long Parliament, the
Convention, and to William of Orange.

Ranke in his History of England points out the causes
which account for the reception of Macaulay's History by
Europe. He says that the Revolution of 1688 was impor-
tant and interesting because the great contest of universal
history, between absolute monarchy and limited
monarchy by a parliamentary constitution, was brought
to a decision here, and as the world in general has come to
adopt the principle of a mixed constitution, the English
had become almost a pattern for all nations.

'This general tendency is one cause of the immense suc-
cess which Macaulay's History, appearing just at the right
moment, had in Europe. Up to that time the Tory view,
as represented by Hume, had not yet been driven from the
field. Macaulay decided the victory of the Whig view/

¹ Ranke, History of England (1875), vi. 29.